

## ***HEALTH BENEFITS E-NEWS***

*Department of Human Resource Management  
Office of Health Benefits*

*December 15, 2005*

### ***More Medicare Part D Communications Mailed in Coming Weeks***

Several communications will be mailed to Medicare-eligible retiree group members in the period before the holidays on the new state enhanced Medicare Part D plan, now called YOURx PLAN—brought to you by the Commonwealth of Virginia Retiree Health Benefits Program and Medco. A letter addressing transition issues such as refills of current medications, drug prior authorizations, use of the Medco pharmacy network and transition drug supplies will be mailed beginning today. View the letter at [www.dhrm.virginia.gov/hbenefits/retirees/TransitionLetter.pdf](http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/hbenefits/retirees/TransitionLetter.pdf). Medicare-eligible retiree group members will also receive ID cards that show new system-generated alternate ID numbers from Anthem for medical coverage and Medco for their Medicare Part D drug coverage. The Anthem ID card is being mailed this week. Medco will be sending a letter containing the member's ID number, followed by a Welcome Kit beginning December 23 that includes the actual ID card. We will be posting this information on the DHRM Web site for anyone needing information during the holiday period.

Information was also mailed this week to 65 COVA Care plan members in family coverage who have one or more Medicare-primary family members. These Medicare-primary participants and dependents may maintain their COVA Care drug coverage and will not be required to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan. The letter and a Notice of Creditable Coverage for this group are attached.

### ***Send Drug Early Refill Requests to Office of Health Benefits for Approval***

Inquiries have increased recently from COVA Care plan members who wish to have early prescription drug refills before going on vacation or out of the country. Many are unfamiliar with the early refill procedure. As a reminder, if a member will be away from home for an extended period of time, participating retail pharmacies and the *Medco by Mail* home delivery pharmacy service can provide one early refill (up to a 34-day or 90-day supply, as appropriate) to accommodate their travel. However, for a more extended travel period, the member should send a request to DHRM by e-mail at [hbp@dhrm.virginia.gov](mailto:hbp@dhrm.virginia.gov) or fax to (804) 371-0231. DHRM will evaluate the member's needs and approve all valid requests. The member should allow at least two to three weeks to process their request. A question and answer on early refills has been added to the FAQs on COVA Care on the DHRM Web site at Compensation and Benefits, Health Benefits, For Employees, COVA Care.

### ***Program Deadline Chart Now on DHRM Web site***

The "What's My Deadline?" chart found in the Fall 2005 issue of the Spotlight newsletter is now posted on the DHRM Web site for easy reference by COVA Care and Kaiser Permanente plan members. It is posted on the Compensation and Benefits page under News and Announcements on the right. The direct link to the chart page is [www.dhrm.virginia.gov/genlbenefits/benefitsdeadline.html](http://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/genlbenefits/benefitsdeadline.html).

### ***Note Foreign National Classification When Submitting Enrollment Form***

Benefits Administrators submitting an enrollment form to the Employee Services Team for an employee who has a foreign national dependent or dependents, and enclosing a copy of the Visa document, should note the I94 classification on the Visa document photocopy. It is very difficult to read the designation on a photocopy. (The I94 classification is a letter followed by a number, such as A1, B2, F1 or J1.)